**Biology 15-16**



**Instructor:** Mrs. Holland **Email:** hollandaudrey@pleasval.k12.ia.us

**Office:** Room 253 **Phone:** 563-332-5151 Ext: 5253

**Website:** [www.hollandscience.weebly.com](http://www.hollandscience.weebly.com)

**Textbook:** Biology: Concepts and Connections (Pearson 2006)

**Materials Needed For Every Class:**

1. One Subject Notebook
2. 3-ring binder
3. Pen/Pencil

**Mrs. Holland’s Mission Statement:**

I hope to encourage meaningful and relevant learning to take place by challenging you to take on the role of scientists in training within my classroom. In other words, you will be discovering the guiding principles of biology by encountering content in a very hands-on inquiry oriented manner. These meaningful learning experiences will provide you with the necessary opportunities to form personal connections with the content. Throughout this journey, you will become a superior communicator, a reflective learner, a skilled problem solver, and informed citizen capable of leaving my classroom with new perspective through which you can critically examine the world around you.

**Classroom Standards:**

1. RESPECT: Respect for yourself, others, and property.
2. RESPONSIBILITY: Be responsible for your own work, your actions, and choices.

**Expectations:**

1. Be on time and prepared for class.
2. Only use your own knowledge and ability to complete homework, projects, and tests. A zero will be given to any individual caught copying, cheating, or plagiarizing and no make-up opportunities for credit will be given.

\*\*Plagiarism: copying someone else’s words down or slightly rearranging them and claiming them as your own. Plagiarizing is considered cheating and you will receive a zero.

1. Come to class with a good attitude and participate!

**Cell Phone Policy:**

From the time you walk into my classroom, your cell phone needs to be in the designated zone on silent before the bell rings to begin class. Upon entry of the classroom, you are not allowed to use a cellular device to make calls, check voice mail, send or read text messages between the hours of 8:10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Students not following this policy will have their phones confiscated and will receive a Wednesday or Saturday session. If a phone is used to invade student privacy, to bully and/or harass a peer, to take pictures in the classroom setting, or to cheat on tests or assignments, then more severe disciplinary action will take place. Depending on the offense, disciplinary action may include the Scott County Sheriff Department. Parents or guardians who need to contact their son/daughter while school is in session may call the school at (563) 332-5151.

**Homework Policy:**

1). All assigned work is due at the beginning of class. You will not be allowed to retrieve work from your locker once the class period has begun. If work is not handed in at the start of class for any reason, then it is considered late and you will receive a zero.

**Absences and Make-Up Work:**

1). If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check the calendar at the front of the room or on my website before you are gone or when you return. Please find the days you have missed and write down all the work, activities, and projects you need to make up before speaking with the teacher.

2). Unless specific circumstances mandate otherwise, for each day of absence you will be given two days to ask for and turn in the work that you have missed. After the two-day grace period, there will be no credit given for the work and you will receive a zero.

\*If the work has been previously assigned and is due on the day that you miss school, you are expected to hand in the work as soon as you return to school.

**Student Misconduct:**

1. Individual conference with you in private to correct the misconduct immediately.
2. If the conduct continues you will receive a classroom detention.

3. After a detention if conduct continues, the parent will be contacted and a referral will be sent to the Dean.

4. After a referral to the Dean, if conduct continues you will be removed from class.

**Lab Safety (See Attached Lab Safety Contract):**

Science labs contain chemicals and equipment that require special handling and can be potentially dangerous if not treated appropriately. When in the lab, you will abide by all safety regulations and procedures. Disciplinary action, including removal from the lab setting, will be taken if you willfully choose not to adhere to safety rules, regulations, and procedures given (see attached lab safety handout for more details).

**Grading:**

* Tests/quizzes are worth 70%
* Labs and homework are worth 30%

**Overall Grade Divisions**

 Quarter 1 = 42.5% Quarter 3 = 42.5%

 Quarter 2 = 42.5% Quarter 4 = 42.5%

 Semester 1 Final = 15% Semester 2 Final = 15%

**School-Wide Method of Evaluation/Grading:**

The following scale will be used to determine class grades on all assignments:

 92% and up = A 77% = C+

 90% = A- 73% = C

 87% = B+ 70% = C-

 83% = B 67% = D+

 80% = B- 63% = D

 60% = D-

 59 % and under = F

**Extra Credit:** Individual extra credit will not be given. If extra credit is made available to a class, then it is your responsibility to satisfy all guidelines and turn it in within the allotted time in order to receive the bonus point(s).



**Student Resources:**

1. 8th Hour: Please utilize this time to seek additional help if you need it. I will always be available during this time slot. In fact, I am in charge of the biology study table during 8th hour so there are days that I will solely focus on helping students with biology concepts; especially prior to tests and .
2. Before School: I will be available every morning around 7:30 if you have any quick questions regarding homework or require some additional help understanding tough concepts. Please use this time for quick questions. If you need in depth help, make sure to set up an appointment with me so I take care of my business ahead of time.
3. Webpage: I have created a webpage that you should all utilize on a regular basis to keep up with assignments, check project guidelines, and study for tests. All of the PowerPoints I will use in class as well as additional supplemental resources will be made available for you all to view at this site.

 \*\*http://hollandscience.weebly.com

 \*\*Make sure that you are using the correct tabs labeled for biology.

1. Quizlet: I will post all vocabulary you are expected to know on this site and you will have the opportunity to learn and practice with the words at your own pace. This site will allow you to create notecards, generate practice vocabulary tests, and even play games with the terms.

 \*\*www.quizlet.com

 \*\*Search: hollandscience

\*\*Make sure the words you are studying are under the subject area of biology.

1. Biology Book: Each student will have a Biology book checked out to them at the beginning of the year so that it can be used as a resource when students are completing homework assignments or labs. Your biology book is always a good resource for you to visit if you have questions at home and/or you do not have time to come in and receive help. Your textbook sometimes explains things in another way or has helpful pictures and diagrams to help you think through difficult concepts. Also, the more you deal with the content in class the sooner you will master the content. So reading the book section before, during, or after we go over material in class will help you learn the content we are studying.

**Safety Contract**

**Purpose:** This contract is designed to inform you of all the rules of this lab as well as precautions that need to be taken to in order to prevent injury or bodily harm. In other words, this contract has been constructed to make sure that everyone is aware that the science lab holds many dangers and hazards. However, the lab can be a safe environment if the appropriate preventative measures are taken and safety regulations are followed. Therefore, you are all required to read this document and familiarize yourselves with the regulations below. To demonstrate that you and your parents have read and understand this document, you and your parent’s/guardians are required to sign this form before you can take part in any lab activity

**Rules:**

1. You must **ALWAYS** wear your goggles when in the lab!
2. Never begin a lab early or without the instructor present. Never work alone.
3. Before beginning a lab, make sure you have thoroughly read through and understand the procedures for the day.
4. If you have questions about a lab or if something is unclear, make sure you ask the instructor for clarification/help before beginning the experiment.
5. A respectful mature attitude is expected all times in the lab setting; horse-play and practical jokes are prohibited.
6. Only touch equipment, chemicals, and supplies if you are instructed to do so.
7. Only perform the authorized experiment.
8. Make sure your lab station and area is as clean as possible at all times. Extra supplies and personal items, like binders and pencil cases, really clutter up a lab area and can cause accidents. So, leave all personal items besides a pen and lab notebook on a side table away from your experiment.
9. Do **NOT** eat or drink anything in the lab area.
10. Do **NOT** eat or drink anything from lab equipment. This includes beakers, test tubes, graduated cylinders, flasks, etc.
11. If you spill or break **ANYTHING,** notify the instructor immediately! Proper disposal techniques will be implemented immediately following.
12. Do **NOT** dump any chemicals down the drain unless instructed that such action is permissible.
13. Report **ALL** injuries, whether severe or not, to the instructor!
14. Clean up your lab station and wash your hands thoroughly before leaving the lab. Once your station is clean, I dismiss you from lab and allow your group to leave.
15. Never leave an experiment unattended (This includes walking away from your station without switching off hot plates).
16. Any/all materials/equipment used will be handled with respect
17. Never remove anything from the lab!!!!
18. Stay with your lab group. I should not see you wandering around the room or turned around chatting with a friend during lab.
19. Be a part of the lab! You do every lab in this class for a specific reason so make sure you are actively participating in lab so you learn/practice the material.
20. Show up to lab with pre-lab work already finished. This is background information you need to know to be successful in lab so the failure to complete these sections may mean you need to make up the lab at another time.

I (student name) have read and understand all of the safety rules and regulations designated on this contract. I know that all of the above rules are designed to keep me, my fellow classmates, and the instructor as safe as possible in the classroom and thus agree to abide by all of the regulations. By signing this document, I am saying that I am fully aware of my responsibilities and roles in the lab. Purposeful violation of any of these rules can and will result with disciplinary action and potential removal from the lab setting.

Class/Period:

Student Name:

Student Signature: Date:

Parent/Guardian’s Signature: Date:

I have read and understand the Syllabus, Classroom Rules and Procedures for Mrs. Holland’s Biology class.

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Print student’s last name, first name

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Student Signature Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date

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Teacher Signature Date